

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, first paragraph, please replace with the following paragraph:

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/196,297, entitled "NETWORK ARCHITECTURE, SYSTEMS, AND METHODS," filed on April 12, 2000, the disclosure of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, and is a continuation in part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/814,178, entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGING AND CONFIGURING VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORKS," filed March 22, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002, which is also expressly incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The present application also relates to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,339, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PARTNERS IN VIRTUAL NETWORKS," filed April 11, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-01; U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,363, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR HAIRPINS IN VIRTUAL NETWORKS," filed April 11, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-02; U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,362, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR USING NAMES IN VIRTUAL NETWORKS," filed April 11, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-03; U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,341, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR MANAGING VIRTUAL ADDRESSES FOR VIRTUAL NETWORKS," filed April 11, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-04; U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,346, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR ENABLING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN A PROCESSOR AND A NETWORK OPERATIONS CENTER," filed April 11, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-07; and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,353, now U.S. Patent No. 6,631,416,

entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR AN EXTRANET," filed April 11, 2001,  
Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-09, all of which are expressly incorporated herein by  
reference in their entirety and concurrently filed herewith the present application.